

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT IT
SUBJECT: CAMPANIA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT RENEWED
1. AFTER 117 DAYS OF ON AGAIN OFF AGAIN NEGOTIATIONS CAMPANIA
POLITICIANS MANAGED TO RESOLVE THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CRISIS BY
PUTTING BACK TOGETHER AN EXECUTIVE GIUNTA TO ALL APPEARANCES A
CLOSE COPY OF LAST ONE. REGIONAL GIUNTA PRESIDENT IS AGAIN THE

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CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT GASPARE RUSSO (SUPPORTED BY DE MITA) AND THE
GIUNTA IS CENTER-LEFT COMPOSED OF 12 MEMBERS FROM THE DC (6),
PSI (3), PSDI (2) AND PRI (1). FIFTY TWO OF THE 60 REGIONAL
COUNCILLORS VOTED FOR THE GIUNTA, LEAVING ONLY THE LIBERALS,
MSI/DN, DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE AND DEMOCRAZIA PROLETARIA OPPOSED.
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2. WHY THESWEEPING MAJORITY? WHY PCI AND PSI SUPPORT FOR THIS
CENTER-LEFT GIUNTA WHICH BOTH DECLARED IN DECEMBER TO BE POLITI-
CALLY INADEQUATE AND POORLY LED? THE PCI PUBLICALLY STATES ITS
REASONS FOR CONCLUDING THAT THE CAMPANIA POLITICAL ARRANGEMENT,
WHILE NOT IDEAL (INCLUSION OF PCI IN GIUNTA) IS "A STEP FORWARD".
FIRST, THE PCI IS NOW CLEARLY ACCEPTED BY ALL AS BEING IN THE
POLITICAL MAJORITY. PCI SUPPORT FOR THE LAST GIUNTA WAS TERMED

BY SOME A "PROGRAM ACCORD" OR "PROGRAM MAJORITY" ONLY. NOW THERE IS NO QUIBBLING. SECOND, THE PCI HAS BEEN GIVEN THE PRESIDENCY OF A THIRD (TWO LAST TIME) REGIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSION. IN ADDITION THE PCI WILL HEAD THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING. THIRD, ALTHOUGH FORMALLY EXCLUDED FROM THE GIUNTA THE PCI WILL PARTICIPATE IN DELIBERATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE THROUGH WEEKLY MEETINGS OF GIUNTA PRESIDENT WITH GROUP LEADERS OF THE FIVE PARTY MAJORITY. IN ADDITION, THE GIUNTA PRESIDENT MUST MEET

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REGIONAL SECRETARIES OF THE MAJORITY PARTIES AT THE REQUEST OF ANY ONE PARTY. THESE PARTY-ASSEMBLY-GIUNTA ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN TERMED BY LOCAL PCI OFFICIALS A "PRE-GIUNTA". I.E. FRAMEWORK TO DISCUSS ISSUES BEFORE THE GIUNTA IS SEIZED WITH THEM. WHILE THE PCI DID NOT SUCCEED IN SETTING UP A LEGALLY QUESTIONABLE "PROGRAM COMMITTEE" AS IT DID IN CALABRIA (SEE NAPLES 531) THE PARTY PRESS DECLARES CAMPANIA TO BE THE REGION WITH "THE MOST ADVANCED POLITICAL SOLUTION."

3. WITH THE PCI WILLING TO ACCEPT A COMPROMISE WHICH LEFT IT OUT OF THE GIUNTA, THE PSI WAS UNDER PRESSURE TO JOIN AN ACCORD. MORE IMPORTANTLY THE REGIONAL PSI WAS DISPOSED TO JOIN ONCE AGAIN WITH THE DC IN GIUNTA FOLLOWING THE PARTY CONGRESS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CRAXI-SIGNORILE MAJORITY AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL. HOWEVER, THE DE MARTINO MINORITY, SEEING LITTLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GIUNTA AND THAT WHICH THE PSI HELPED BRING DOWN IN DECEMBER, REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE. THUS, WITHIN THE PSI ARE THE SEEDS OF THE NEXT REGIONAL CRISIS AS WELL AS THE PARTY'S OWN.

4. D.C. REGIONAL LEADERS PUBLICALLY APPLAUDED THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE RUSSO CENTER-LEFT GIUNTA AND PRIVATELY MINIMIZED PCI ADVANCE THROUGH "CONSULTATIVE" AGREEMENTS. THE DC AS WELL AS

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THE PCI EMPHASIZED THAT THE POLITICAL AGREEMENT WAS NECESSARY NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF DIFFICULT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS BUT BECAUSE OF THE "GREAT TENSION AND PAIN" (EFFECTS OF MORO KIDNAPPING) OF THE MOMENT.

5. WITH THE RENEWAL OF THE REGIONAL GIUNTA LOCAL POLITICIANS TURN TO NAPLES CITY. THE PCI WILL NOW USE ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE CENTER-LEFT GIUNTA AND ITS EMPHASIS ON THE POLITICS OF UNITY TO PRESS THE CASE FOR RECONFIRMATION OF THE PCI-LED (VALENZI) CITY ADMINISTRATION WITH THE DC ENTERING THAT POLITICAL MAJORITY. THE DC YET DEMURS AND CONSIDERS A NON PCI MAYOR TO BE NAPLES' POLITICAL SOLUTION. SHOULD THAT OCCUR, POLITICAL OBSERVERS TALK OF PROVIDING SYMBOLIC POLITICAL BALANCE BY REPLACING PSI WITH PCI

IN THE RELATIVELY POWERLESS PROVINCIAL PRESIDENCY. RECALLING
THAT FOUR MONTHS OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CRISIS WENT LARGELY IGNORED
EXCEPT BY THE POLITICAL CLASS, THE INTRICATE NEGOTIATIONS AND
DEALS SEEM TO BE MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. THEY DO, HOWEVER,
DEMONSTRATE THE DEGREE TO WHICH POLITICAL COMPETITION IS
ACCOMPANIED BY CLOSE INTERACTION AND COOPERATION. COLANTONIO

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